

AN ACT

relating to psychological counseling for certain grand jurors.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Article 56.04(f), Code of Criminal Procedure, is amended to read as follows:

(f) The commissioners court may approve a program in which the crime victim liaison or victim assistance coordinator may offer not more than 10 hours of post-investigation or posttrial psychological counseling for a person who serves as a grand juror, alternate grand juror, juror, or [an] alternate juror in a grand jury investigation or criminal trial involving graphic evidence or testimony and who requests the post-investigation or posttrial psychological counseling not later than the 180th day after the date on which the grand jury or jury [~~in the trial~~] is dismissed. The crime victim liaison or victim assistance coordinator may provide the counseling using a provider that assists local criminal justice agencies in providing similar services to victims.

SECTION 2. Section 61.003(a), Government Code, is amended to read as follows:

(a) Each person who reports for jury service shall be personally provided a form letter that when signed by the person directs the county treasurer to donate all, or a specific amount designated by the person, of the person's daily reimbursement under this chapter to:

1 (1) the compensation to victims of crime fund under
2 Subchapter B, Chapter 56, Code of Criminal Procedure;

3 (2) the child welfare, child protective services, or
4 child services board of the county appointed under Section 264.005,
5 Family Code, that serves abused and neglected children;

6 (3) any program selected by the commissioners court
7 that is operated by a public or private nonprofit organization and
8 that provides shelter and services to victims of family violence;

9 (4) any other program approved by the commissioners
10 court of the county, including a program established under Article
11 56.04(f), Code of Criminal Procedure, that offers psychological
12 counseling [~~to jurors~~] in criminal cases involving graphic evidence
13 or testimony; or

14 (5) a veterans court program established by the
15 commissioners court as provided by Chapter 124.

16 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2017.

S.B. No. 1264

President of the Senate

Speaker of the House

I hereby certify that S.B. No. 1264 passed the Senate on April 19, 2017, by the following vote: Yeas 31, Nays 0.

Secretary of the Senate

I hereby certify that S.B. No. 1264 passed the House on May 21, 2017, by the following vote: Yeas 129, Nays 12, one present not voting.

Chief Clerk of the House

Approved:

Date

Governor